THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 25th January 1949.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

* 185 *Q*.—MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is addressed to the Minister for Land Revenue. I think the Minister for Finance will answer it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, I answered it in the Assembly. When the Hon. Minister was absent, I was asked to answer this question."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" What about the answer to the question now? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Hon. Dr. Rajan will answer it, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I can answer the question only to-morrow."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Because the answer to the question was a long one, and hon. Members wanted time to put supplementary questions, the question was postponed."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I am prepared to answer the question now, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Have you got the file with you? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" No, Sir, but I can answer."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, may I know whether we have a Revenue Minister at all? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, the Hon. Premier is in charge of the Land Revenue portfolio."

MR. PRESIDENT :—(Turning to Mr. Suryanarayana Rao) " Have you any supplementary questions to put? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I have a large number of supplementary questions to put. I think, Sir, the Hon. Minister should have the file and that he should be prepared to answer the supplementary questions. It is not fair to me that he should come forward to answer supplementary questions without the file before him."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" We shall take up this question to-morrow."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I will be prepared to-morrow, Sir."

[The Question No. 185 was postponed.]

Arrests made at Palmyra Depot, Rayapuram.

* 186 *Q*.—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that about 30 residents of Palmyra Depot, Rayapuram, were arrested by the Police of the Division on 13th October 1948 and taken to the Police station; if so, what the charges against them were;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the arrested persons were beaten very severely by the Sub-Inspector and the constables when they were being taken to the Police station and thereafter in the Police station too;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that some of the persons were asked to remove their clothes and the Sub-Inspector at the point of the lathi asked them to do some indecent acts;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that some of the arrested persons were sent from the Police station to the Rayapuram Stanley Hospital for treatment for injuries received at the hands of the Police; and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the medical report on those cases; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that one of the arrested persons was a college student and he was put in the lock-up for over five hours completely naked after being severely beaten by the Sub-Inspector; and if so, what was the charge against him that necessitated the Sub-Inspector to resort to such cruel treatment?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—"(*a*) Twenty-six persons residing not only in the Palmyra Depot, but also at other places in Rayapuram were arrested by the Rayapuram Police on 13th October 1948 and taken to the Police station. Sixteen were arrested under section 75 of the City Police Act for disorderly and riotous behaviour, i.e., obstructing the Sub-Inspector of Police, Rayapuram, in discharging his duty and thus creating a disturbance of public peace and the other ten were arrested under Rule 44 of the Madras Traffic Rules for causing obstruction to traffic by walking on the centre of the road in spite of the warning given by the Police.

"(*b*) No.

"(*c*) No.

"(*d*) Two of the arrested persons were sent by the Police to the Stanley Hospital, Rayapuram, for treatment of the slight injuries sustained by them while jumping over a wall to escape arrest by the Police for riotous and disorderly behaviour in a public place. Government have obtained copies of the medical reports on these cases.

"(e) One of the arrested persons is a college student. He was kept in the lock-up for five hours and when bail was offered he was enlarged on bail. He was neither beaten by the Sub-Inspector nor ill-treated nor kept naked while in Police custody. The charge against him was riotous and disorderly behaviour in a public place. He obstructed the Sub-Inspector from enquiring into an alleged theft case by catching hold of the Sub-Inspector's shirt and by using criminal force."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, is this merely based on the report of the Sub-Inspector of Police or any independent investigation has been made into the matter?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" An investigation has been made by the Commissioner of Police and a report has been submitted to Government."

Persons arrested in connexion with the Hyderabad affair.

* 187 *Q.*—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state how many persons, who were arrested on suspicion in connexion with the Hyderabad affair, are still kept under detention in the district of Kurnool?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" None."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May we know, Sir, whether this Government are aware that several persons whose names are Abdul Razak were arrested simply because the officers thought there must be some connexion between Abdul Razak and Razakars?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No such persons were arrested."

Special officers posted to Hyderabad State from Madras Province.

* 188 *Q.*—SRI N. SANKARA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many special Collectors were posted to Hyderabad State from Madras Province;

(*b*) what the number of Andhras so posted is;

(*c*) how many from Rayalaseema districts have been posted; and

(*d*) how many special Deputy Collectors have been posted, and how many of them are from Andhra and Rayalaseema?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" (*a*) Eight Deputy Collectors from this Province have been deputed to act as Collectors of eight districts in the Hyderabad State;